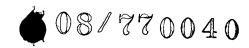


LEONARD J. SANTISI WILLIAM S. FROMMER GEORGE B. SNYDER WILLIAM F. LAWRENCE EDGAR H. HAUG ROBERT F. KIRCHNER MARILYN MATTHES BROGAN MATTHEW K. RYAN WILLIAM J. SPATZ EUGENE L. FLANAGAN III BARRY S. WHITE THOMAS J. KOWALSKI JOHN R. LANE

ALVIN SINDERBRAND FRED A. KEIRE OF COUNSEL





Sul

## CURTIS. MORRIS & SAFFORD. P.C.

530 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK. NEW YORK 10036

(212) 840-3333 **FACSIMILES** (212) 840-0712 (212) 764-5574

December 17, 1996

DENNIS M. SMID\* MARK MONTAGUE DANIEL G. BROWN JOHN E. BOYD PAMELA G. SALKELD SUSAN E. MCHALE JENNIFER A. REDA THEODORE J. MLYNAR BARBARA Z. MORRISSEY DAVID RUBIN YVONNE K. TRAN C. ANDREW IM

NOT ADMITTED IN NY

EDWARD G. CURTIS (1886-1970) DANIEL L. MORRIS (1890-1966) TRUMAN S. SAFFORD (1903-1993)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

U.S. Patent Application

Applicant: Hiroaki Kitano et ano.

Our Ref.: 450100-3752

Dear Sir:

Enclosed are papers constituting the above patent application which is being filed under 37 C.F.R. 1.53 without a signed Declaration. Please accord a filing date and a serial number to such application and inform the undersigned thereof so that a signed Declaration and the surcharge required by 37 C.F.R. 1.16(e) may be duly filed.

Please address all correspondence to:

William S. Frommer, Esq. Curtis, Morris & Safford, P.C. 530\_Fifth\_Avenue New York, New York 10036

Respectfully,

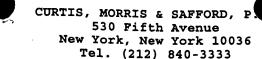
William S. Frommer

Reg. No. 25,506

Attorney for Applicant

WSF:sea Enclosures





Date: December 17, 1996 CMS Docket No.: 450100-3752

O: THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

With reference to the filing in the United States Patent and Trademark Office of an application for patent in the name(s) of: <u>Hiroaki Kitano et ano.</u> entitled: *INFORMATION RETRIEVAL APPARATUS AND METHOD* 

- This is an application of a small entity under 37 CFR 1.9(f) and the amounts shown in parentheses below have been employed in calculating the fee.
- Small Entity Verified Statement \_\_ is enclosed was filed in the parent application and is still proper.

The following are enclosed:

- X Specification
- X 5 Claim(s) (including 2 independent claims)This application contains a multiple dependent claim.
- X Oath or Declaration and Power of Attorney (unsigned)
- X 7 Sheet(s) of Drawings
- X Our check 40346 for \$ 770.00 , calculated as follows:

Basic Fee - \$770.00 (385.00)		\$ 770.00
Total Number of Claims in excess of 20 at \$22.00 each		
Number of Independent Claims in excess of 3 at \$80.00	each	 . 0
Multiple Dependent Claim Fee at \$260.00		 . 0
Total Filing Fee		\$ 770.00

Assignment Recording Fee \$40.00

- \_\_ Order Form for Recording Assignment
- <u>X</u> Certified copy of each of the following application(s) to substantiate the claim(s) for priority made in the Declaration:

Application No. 07-334445 filed 12/22/95 in Japan

Please charge any additional fees required for the filing of this application or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03-3925. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

CURTIS, MORRIS & SAFFORD, P.C. Attorneys for Applicant(s)

William S. Frommer

Reg. No.: 25,506

J:\S096-DEC.13\3752.PXL